

105TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. CON. RES. 122

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 21, 1998

Referred to the Committee on International Relations

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that the 65th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933 should serve as a reminder of the brutality of the government of the former Soviet Union’s repressive policies toward the Ukrainian people.

Whereas this year marks the 65th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933 that caused the deaths of at least 7,000,000 Ukrainians and that was covered up and officially denied by the government of the former Soviet Union;

Whereas millions of Ukrainians died, not by natural causes such as pestilence, drought, floods, or a poor harvest, but by policies designed to punish Ukraine for its aversion and opposition to the government of the former Soviet Union’s oppression and imperialism, including the forced collectivization of agriculture;

Whereas when Ukraine was famine-stricken, the government of the former Soviet Union exported 1,700,000 tons of

grain to the West while offers from international relief organizations to assist the starving population were rejected on the grounds that there was no famine in Ukraine and no need for the assistance;

Whereas the borders of Ukraine were tightly controlled and starving Ukrainians were not allowed to cross into Russian territory in search of bread;

Whereas in his book “The Harvest of Sorrow”, British historian Robert Conquest explains, “A quarter of the rural population, men, women, and children, lay dead or dying, the rest in various stages of debilitation with no strength to bury their families or neighbors.”;

Whereas the Commission on the Ukraine Famine was established on December 13, 1985, to conduct a study with the goal of expanding the world’s knowledge and understanding of the famine and to expose the government of the former Soviet Union for its atrocities in the famine;

Whereas the Commission’s report to Congress confirmed that the government of the former Soviet Union consciously employed the brutal policy of forced famine to repress the Ukrainian population and to oppress the Ukrainians’ inviolable religious and political rights; and

Whereas the Commission on the Ukraine Famine presented 4 volumes of findings and conclusions, 10 volumes of archival material, and over 200 cassettes of testimony from famine survivors to the newly independent Government of Ukraine in 1993, during the official observances of the 60th anniversary of the Ukrainian famine in Kyiv, Ukraine: Now, therefore, be it

- 1        *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
- 2   *concurring),*

1 **SECTION 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2 It is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) the victims of the government of the former  
4 Soviet Union-engineered Ukrainian Famine of  
5 1932–1933 be solemnly remembered on its 65th an-  
6 niversary;

7 (2) the Congress condemns the systematic dis-  
8 regard for human life, human rights, human liberty,  
9 and self-determination that characterized the repres-  
10 sive policies of the government of the former Soviet  
11 Union during the Ukrainian Famine of 1932–1933;

12 (3) on the 65th anniversary of the Ukrainian  
13 Famine of 1932–1933, in contrast to the policies of  
14 the government of the former Soviet Union, Ukraine  
15 is moving toward democracy, a free-market economy,  
16 and full respect for human rights, and it is essential  
17 that the United States continue to assist Ukraine as  
18 it proceeds down this path; and

19 (4) any supplemental material that will assist in  
20 the dissemination of information about the Ukrain-  
21 ian Famine of 1932–1933, and thereby help to pre-  
22 vent similar future tragedies, be compiled and made  
23 available worldwide for the study of the devastation  
24 of the famine.

25 **SEC. 2. TRANSMITTAL OF THE RESOLUTION.**

26 The Secretary of the Senate shall—

- 1       (1) transmit a copy of this resolution to—  
2           (A) the President;  
3           (B) the Secretary of State; and  
4           (C) the co-chairs of the Congressional Ukrain-  
5       ian Caucus; and  
6       (2) request that the Secretary of State transmit a  
7       copy of this resolution to the Government of Ukraine.

Passed the Senate October 21 (legislative day, October 2), 1998.

Attest:

GARY SISCO,  
*Secretary.*